

tance of having and using the right to vote. As Americans, we are both heirs to and guardians of the blessings of liberty and self-government. Exercising our right to vote is one of the most important ways we can help to advance the ideals expressed in our Nation's founding documents and ensure justice and equal opportunity for all Americans.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim August 26, 1990, as Women's Equality Day, a day to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment. I call upon all Americans to observe this day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fourteenth day of August, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fifteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

Proclamation 6171 of August 20, 1990

National Drive for Life Weekend, 1990

*By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation*

The Labor Day weekend is an ideal time to remind ourselves of the grave threat posed to each of us by alcohol-impaired driving—a tragic and senseless occurrence that remains our Nation's number one highway safety problem. During this weekend, we should be especially mindful that irresponsible drinking can quickly destroy a festive holiday by causing injury and death.

Last year more than 23,000 people were killed in the United States as a result of alcohol-related highway crashes—an average of 65 individuals each day. Although the proportion of traffic deaths related to alcohol has declined during the last few years, approximately one-half of all fatal motor vehicle crashes continue to be alcohol-related.

The Drive for Life campaign is designed to reduce the high number of alcohol-related traffic accidents in the United States by promoting a month-long public awareness program aimed at educating all Americans on the dangers of drunk driving. By focusing on the Labor Day weekend, when the number of alcohol-related highway crashes traditionally exceeds the average by about 10 percent, the Drive for Life campaign will help to concentrate the Nation's attention on the serious dangers of drunk driving.

During the Labor Day weekend and, indeed, throughout the year, we should also be mindful of the dangers posed by drivers who are impaired by drugs other than alcohol. Certain drugs—legal as well as illegal, and either alone or in combination with alcohol—are major contributors to highway crashes. All of us should be aware of the risks of driving after taking prescribed medications or over-the-counter drugs, especially those that have labels warning against operating a motor ve-

hicle. We should also be aware that combining drugs and alcohol with driving increases these risks.

Three years ago, a coalition led by Mothers Against Drunk Driving sponsored the first National Drive for Life Day and urged all Americans to pledge not to drink and drive on that day. The success of this effort prompted calls for an expanded campaign, to which the Congress responded in 1988 and 1989 by designating Labor Day weekend as National Drive for Life Weekend. By House Joint Resolution 627, the Congress has again called for a national campaign by designating the Labor Day weekend beginning September 1, 1990, as "National Drive for Life Weekend" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this weekend.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the Labor Day weekend, September 1 through 3, 1990, as National Drive for Life Weekend. I ask all Americans to cooperate in this lifesaving campaign by refusing to drink and drive, by using safety restraints when on the road, and by insisting upon effective action against drug- or alcohol-impaired drivers. I also call upon the people of the United States, their elected representatives, and other public officials to observe this weekend with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twentieth day of August, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fifteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

Proclamation 6172 of August 22, 1990

International Visitors' Month, 1990

*By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation*

For 50 years, Americans throughout the United States have welcomed participants in the International Visitors Program to their communities, offices, and homes. Through this program, which is sponsored by the United States Information Agency, current and future foreign leaders have been able to enjoy a professional and cultural orientation to our country. The extraordinary generosity of the American people—their willingness to share not only their knowledge and skills but also the fabric of their daily lives—has ensured the remarkable success of the International Visitors Program.

More than 800,000 Americans, in communities in every state, volunteer their time to ensure that program participants receive a warm welcome to the United States. These volunteers help to answer our guests' questions and, in turn, give our guests the opportunity to share with us important insights about their native lands.

Through the International Visitors Program, our children have been able to learn more about other peoples and their cultures; American